AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 to 4. (Cancelled)

- 5. (New) A method for treating or curing a patient having tumor cells, which comprises administering an antitumor-effective amount of ascopyrone to the patient thereby inducing apoptosis of the tumor cells and killing the tumor cells directly.
- 6. (New) The method of claim 5 wherein the ascopyrone is ascopyrone P.